IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

In re Application of: T1-28564.1

Sundararajan Sriram Examiner: Casea, Fred

 Serial No.:
 10/658,902
 Art Unit:
 2617

 Filed:
 09/10/2003
 Conf. No.:
 3595

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSIONER OF DECISION DISMISSING PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT - 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.181

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration by the Commissioner of the Decision on Petition dated December 23, 2009 dismissing Applicants' Petition to Withdraw the Holding of Abandonment, for the reasons set forth below.

In the Decision on Petition dated December 23, 2009 DISMISSING Applicant's Petition, the Office of Petitions set forth the following grounds for dismissing the Petition:

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Petitioner is advised that the document known as ATTACHMENT-5 while a docket record, it is as stated by petition as a "list of the docket for the pending application". The requirement however to show non-receipt under Delgar v. Schulyer, 172 USPQ 513 (D.D.C. 1971) is for the "Master Docket" and not a docket record for the pending application.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the DISMISSAL of the Petition for the reasons set forth below.

REASONS WHY THE DECISION ON PETITION DISMISSING THE PETITION IS IN IMPROPER AND SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

The Decision on Petition dated November 17, 2008 held that copies of the "DOCKET RECORDS" were required – NOT a "physical copy of the entire contents of the actual file jacket" (see Decision on Petition dated November 7, 2008, page 1, lines 25-29).

Yet the Decision on Petition dated December 23, 2009, determined "a petition filed November 20, 2007 and treated under 37 CFR 1.181 was dismissed in a decision mailed June 10, 2008 <u>because</u> the requirement under 37 DFR 1.181, that <u>copies of the ACTUAL docket records OR FILE JACKET be provided.</u> was not met" (Decision on Petition dated December 23, 2009, page 1, lines 19-22).

After first determining that that a "physical copy of the entire contents of the actual tile jacket" was not required – ONLY "DOCKET RECORDS" (see Decision on Petition dated November 7, 2008, page 1, lines 25-29), the USPTO has now changed its grounds for dismissing the petition by now determining that a "Master Docket" is required – NOT a docket record (see Decision on Petition dated

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December 23, 2009, page 1, line 30 - page 2, line 3). The two Decisions are at odds with one another and confusing.

The Decision on Petition dated December 23, 2009, page 2, lines 1-3, cites <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, 172, USPQ 513 (D.D.C. 1971) as requiring that Applicants present a "Master Docket" – and <u>NOT a docket record for the pending application</u>. The USPTO's understanding of <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, however, is only partially correct. <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, actually states:

A copy of the practitioner's record(s) required to show non-receipt of the Office action should include the master docket for the firm. That is, if a three month period for reply was set in the nonreceived Office action, a copy of the master docket report showing all replies docketed for a date three months from the mail date of the nonreceived Office action must be submitted as documentary proof of nonreceipt of the Office action. If no such master docket exists, the practitioner should so state and provide other evidence such as, but not limited to, the following: the application file jacket; incoming mail log; calendar; reminder system; or the individual docket record for the application in question.

The first issue to resolve is what comprises a "Master Docket" in the context of the <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u> holding? <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u> states:

A copy of the practitioner's record(s) required to show non-receipt of the Office action should include the master docket for the firm. That is, if a three month period for reply was set in the nonreceived Office action, a copy of the master docket report showing all replies docketed for a date three months from the mail date of the nonreceived Office action must be submitted as documentary proof of nonreceipt of the Office action.

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The document in dispute, "Notice to File Corrected Application Papers" lists a notification date of July 9, 2007 and sets forth a reply date of "up to 30 days from the mail date of the Notice to correct the listed informalities". Thus, under the holding in <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, a "Master Docket Report" in the present situation would comprise a docket reports showing all USPTO responses docketed for Texas Instruments Incorporated USPTO patent applications for August 8, 2007 - a date 30 days from the July 9, 2007 notification date of the document "Notice to File Corrected Application Papers".

Applicant submits herewith a document (ATTACHMENT-14) that is a docket report showing all USPTO responses docketed for Texas Instruments Incorporated USPTO patent applications for August 8, 2007 - a date 30 days from the July 9, 2007 notification date of the document "Notice to File Corrected Application Papers". Attachment-14 qualifies as a "Master Docket Report" under Delgar v. Schulyer. The submitted "Master Docket Report" clearly shows that NO responsive action was docketed for US Application No. 10/658,902 (TI-28564.1 or T28564.1) on August 8, 2007, thus confirming non-receipt of the "Notice to File Corrected Application Papers" listing a notification date of July 9, 2007 and setting forth a reply date of "up to 30 days from the mail date of the Notice to correct the listed informalities", by Applicant and/or Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Having submitted herewith the newly requested "Master Docket", no additional evidence of non-receipt is required under <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>.

But even if Applicant had not been able to produce the attached "Master Docket Report", the court in <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, used the term "should" – and not "shall" or "must" — in its determination that "a copy of the practitioner's record(s) required to show non-receipt of the Office action <u>SHOULD include the master</u>

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docket for the firm". Thus, submission of a "Master Docket" is not mandatory. Delgar v. Schulyer goes on to state, that where a "Master Docket" does not exist, "the practitioner should so state and provide other evidence such as, but not limited to, the following: the application file jacket; incoming mail log; calendar; reminder system; OR the individual docket record for the application in question".

Applicant has already provided an individual docket record for the present application (see ATTACHMENT-5). The USPTO has admitted that ATTACHMENT-5 is an individual docket record for the present application (Decision on Petition, dated December 23, 2009, page 1, line 30 — page 2, line 3). Thus, Applicant has already met the alternative requirements of <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, where no "Master Docket" exists. The docket record by itself is sufficient evidence under <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, to show non-receipt of the Office communication dated July 2, 2007 (note use of the term "OR" — NOT "AND" — thus any one form of the listed evidence may be an acceptable substitute for "Master Docket" under <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>.

In addition to the above docket record. Applicant previously provided as additional evidence of non-receipt: 1) incoming mail logs for July 6-13, 2007 (ATTACHMENTs - 8-13)(which shows non-receipt by TI of the July 9, 2007 Office letter); and 2) the Declaration of Sharlet Hurst dated July 17, 2008, U.S. Patent Docketing Administrative Assistant tasked with the duty of logging into Texas Instruments' legal data base all incoming communications to Texas Instruments from the USPTO during the time period in question (declaring that no Office letter dated July 9, 2007 for the above-identified application was received by Texas Instruments prior to the copy attached to the Decision on Petition dated June 10, 2008).

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Thus Applicant has already provided two alternative forms of evidence of non-receipt (as identified by <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>) of the Office letter dated July 9, 2007, where any one should be sufficient under <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>. In addition to the above, Applicant has submitted the declaration of the TI docketing clerk affirming that the Office letter dated July 9, 2007 was not received by TI prior to the copy attached to the Decision on Petition dated June 10, 2008. Surely three separate alternative forms of evidence of non-receipt, when <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u>, requires only one, should be sufficient.

In addition to the above, Applicant notes for the record that he has not submitted a copy of the actual application file jacket for U.S. Application No. 10/658,902 because the Decision on Petition dated November 7, 2008 specifically stated that a 'physical copy of the entire contents of the actual file jacket' was NOT required (page 1, lines 25-29). Applicant has already provided three alternative forms of evidence of non-receipt of the Office letter dated July 9, 2007, when <u>Delgar</u> y, Schulyer, holds that any one form can be sufficient.

Thus the determination by the Office of Petitions that – "Evidence of nonreceipt under <u>Delgar v. Schulyer</u> has not been met" (<u>Decision on Petition dated</u> <u>December 23, 2009, page 2, lines 1-3)</u>", is clearly in error and must be withdrawn.

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Accordingly, in light of the above facts and arguments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Dismissal of the Petition dated December 23, 2009, and hereby reaffirms his request that the Petition request be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald O. Neerings Reg. No. 34,227 Attorney for Applicant

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED P.O. BOX 655474, M/S 3999 Dallas, Texas 75265

Phone: 972/917-5299 Fax: 972/917-4417

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ATTACHMENT - 14

MASTER RESPONSIVE ACTION DOCKET FOR TEXAS INSTRUMENTS FOR 08-2007

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